

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01137 031510Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
-----085976 031512Z /47

Z O 031408Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO USEDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT FLASH
SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 8067
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1137

EXDIS

MONROVIA FOR SECRETARY

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: RHODESIA: NKOMO'S REPLY TO LAGOS PROPOSAL

REF: SECTO 3073

1. BRITISH DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER AND I SAW NKOMO EARLY
MONDAY AFTERNOON. I PRESENTED TALKING POINTS REFTEL AND GAVE
HIM COPY OF THE STATEMENT WHICH HAD JUST BEEN ISSUED.

2. NKOMO APPEARED TO TAKE AN INITIALLY HOSTILE POSITION.
A LITTLE JOKING AND CAREFUL READING OF THE STATEMENT
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SEEMED TO ALLAY HIS ORIGINAL SUSPICION. HIS TWO COMPANIONS
REASSURED THEMSELVES ON THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE MALTA II
CONFERENCE. THEY ASKED WHETHER THE UN WOULD BE REPRESENTED.
I REPLIED THAT THOUGH THERE WAS NOTHING TO THIS EFFECT IN OUR
INSTRUCTIONS, IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT WE WOULD TRY TO
REASSEMBLE THE SAME PARTICIPANTS AS AT MALTA I WHICH CERTAINLY
INCLUDED PREM CHAND. ZAPU OFFICIALS NOTED THAT MALTA WAS BASED

ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 415 AND THEREFORE PROPERLY
SHOULD INCLUDE HIM.

3. NKOMO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THOUGH THEY HAD A BUSY PROGRAM,
THE PF WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO DISCUSS SOLUTIONS AND WOULD THEREFORE
AGREE TO THE PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WITH GRAHAM AND ME. TIMING,
HOWEVER, HE SAID, WAS A PROBLEM. LAST WEEK HE HAD TRIED TO
GET MUGABE TO LUSAKA ON THE SIXTH BUT THE ZANU LEADER HAD SAID
HE WAS BUSY AND THEY HAD AGREED TO GET TOGETHER HERE ON THE
THIRTEENTH. AT FIRST NKOMO SAID THE PF MEETING WITH ME AND GRAHAM
WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER THEY HAD HAD A CHANCE TO GET
TOGETHER, WHICH WOULD BRING IT TO THE FIFTEENTH OR SEVENTEENTH.
AFTER DISCUSSION WITH HIS COLLEAGUES HOWEVER HE VOLUNTEERED
TO TRY TO CONTACT MUGABE AGAIN TO URGE HIM TO PUT ASIDE HIS
OTHER COMMITMENTS IN ORDER TO TAKE THE FLIGHT FROM MAPUTO WHICH
WOULD BRING HIM TO LUSAKA THE NIGHT OF THURSDAY THE SIXTH.
IF HE WOULD DO THIS, THEY WOULD GET TOGETHER FRIDAY THE SEVENTH
AND THEN WITH GRAHAM AND ME ON SATURDAY THE EIGHTH OR MONDAY
THE TENTH.

4. THE ZAPU OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY BELIEVE MUGABE HAD ONLY
GONE AS FAR AS DAR ON HIS WAY TO LAGOS BUT THAT THEY WERE NOT
CERTAIN WHERE HE WAS AND ASKED WHETHER WE COULD HELP LOCATE
HIM FOR THEM. ANY INFORMATION INFO ADDRESSEE POSTS CAN PASS
ON TO US WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

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NNN

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